



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

June 3, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

"THE PLAN TO STOP PAUL" ACTS 23

Even when others threatened his life, Paul continued to obey Jesus. He believed that God, who showed His love for the world by sending His Son to die on the cross and rise again, would help him through hard times. We too can risk everything to share the gospel with courage because we know that God loves us and will care for us.

Questions to Ask, Conversation Starters, and Helping to Apply The Truths to Our Kids' Lives

Remember: this guide is meant to help facilitate conversations and engagement with Jesus throughout the week, so don't feel like you need to do this all in one day!

BEFORE WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

- Continue conversations as a family regarding the lesson from last Sunday, when we learned about examples of people in the bible who had faith and looked forward to Jesus in whom all the promises in the bible are fulfilled. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Acts 23, pray and ask God to reveal himself to you and for wisdom in how to best shepherd and disciple your kids through this Scripture in the next week

AFTER WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation

- Talk to your kids about the Bible story that they learned at church. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the story, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up.
- Continue the conversation with your kids on Sunday and throughout the week. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
 1. Paul spoke the truth of the Gospel every where he went. The religious leaders and people at the time were offended by his teaching. Engage your kids in a conversation about the truth of the Gospel. What is it that Paul preached and why was it offensive to the people at the time? How do people respond to the Gospel today? Did people's response to Paul

hinder him from sharing the Gospel? Should we be hindered by responses to the Gospel today?

2. While Paul was in prison, the Lord appeared to him and told him to take courage! The Lord assured Paul that just as he had spoken about Him to the Jews, so also would he be able to tell the people in Rome about Him. How did God work in His sovereignty to bring Paul to Rome? What does this teach us about God's character?
3. Paul was in prison. He did not know how he would get to Rome to tell people about Jesus, as the Lord had told him he would, but... Paul trusted in Jesus. He was risking everything to share the good news of Jesus. What does this teach us as disciples of Christ? How did Paul show that he trusted in Jesus?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Pray that the Lord empowers you to model discipleship to your kids. Pray that the Lord empowers your family by the power of the Holy Spirit to share the good news of Jesus even in difficult situations. Pray for boldness and dependency on Jesus for this.
- Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone to pray for that person's request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.
- Take time to pray independently for your children, for God to do his mighty work in their hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Discipleship through modeling/action

- Follow up throughout the week about the things you discussed
 - Intentionally seek to share and proclaim the Gospel this week both in words and actions even in challenging and difficult situations or in the face of rejection and mockery.
- Pursue discipleship in your own life. Read Scripture, pray fervently, invest into community, and more. Model the ways of Christ as an example to your kids.

Our Memory Verse for This Unit

OUR MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT (ENTITLED "GOD'S PLAN FOR PAUL") IS PHILIPPIANS 1: 20-21

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - "It is my eager expectation and hope that ...Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
- For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:

- “To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

While we are helping the kids engage with this Scripture on Sundays through fun activities and time together, we really encourage you to take time to continue to engage with the memorization of this Scripture at home. As always, the hope is not to have our kids simply know a lot of Scripture, but to engage in God’s Word and allow Him to use it to transform the hearts of our kids!

What’s Coming Up?

- We will be updating our schedule a little bit! Check out the changes [here](#) and ask RLA Kids leaders about it on Sunday.
- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word “Kids” to 323.859.1122. It really helps in preparing for Sunday and the rest of the week!

We Want to Know and Serve You Better!

We love hearing from you! You can email kids@realityla.com at any time with any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We also love to be praying with and alongside you, so please send those over as well.